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Agenda item 57

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled:

"Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

"(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (200 8-2017);

"(b) Women in development;

"(c) Human resources development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate jointly on sub-items (a) and (b) at its 18th and 19th meetings, on 22 October 2009, and on sub-item (c) at its 24th meeting, on 28 October. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.18, 19 and 24). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 7th meetings, from 5 to 7 October (see A/C.2/64/SR.2-7). Action was taken on the item at the 20th and 41st meetings on 23 October and 9 December (see A/C.2/64/SR.20 and 41). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in four parts, under the symbol A/64/424 and Add.1-3.

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Item 57
Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Report of the Secretary-General on the legal empowerment of the poor and the eradication of poverty (A/64/133)

Letter dated 6 March 2009 from the representative of the Sudan to the Secretary-General (A/64/65)

Letter dated 30 September 2009 from the representative of the Sudan to the Secretary-General (A/64/489)

Item 57 (a)
Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Oral report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of efforts related to the theme for the Second Decade (see A/C.2/64/SR.18)

Item 57 (b)
Women in development

Report of the Secretary-General on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies (A/64/162 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* (A/64/93)

Item 57 (c)
Human resources development

Report of the Secretary-General on human resources development (A/64/329)

4. At the 18th meeting, on 22 October, introductory statements were made by the Acting Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under the agenda item and sub-item (a)) and the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (b)) (see A/C.2/64/SR.18).

5. At the same meeting, the Acting Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development responded to questions and comments made by the representatives of Bangladesh, the United Republic of Tanzania, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (see A/C.2/64/SR.18).

6. At its 24th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (c)) (see A/C.2/64/SR.24).

7. At the same meeting, the Director of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination responded to a question posed by the representative of the Sudan (see A/C.2/64/SR.24).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.4 and Rev.2

8. At the 20th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Guatemala, on behalf of Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Switzerland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty" (A/C.2/64/L.4), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 63/142 of 11 December 2008,

"*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation'), the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

"*Reaffirming* the importance of the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recognizing* that empowerment of the poor is essential for the effective eradication of poverty and hunger,

"*Recognizing also*, in this regard, that access to justice and the realization of rights related to property, labour and business are mutually reinforcing and essential components in the effective eradication of poverty,

"*Stressing* in this context the importance of the applicable international human rights instruments,

"*Reaffirming* that the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger,

"*Stressing* that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to achieve equitable and effective development and to foster a vibrant economy, and reaffirming its commitment to eliminate gender-based discrimination in all its forms, including in the labour and financial markets, as well as, inter alia, in the ownership of assets and property rights, and to promote women's rights, including their economic empowerment, and effectively mainstream gender in law reforms, business support services and economic programmes, and give women full and equal access to economic resources,

"*Reaffirming* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account

national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, entitled *Making the Law Work for Everyone*, as a useful reference to guide policy dialogue and action at the international and national levels, bearing in mind the importance of national circumstances, ownership and leadership;

"3. *Takes note* of the broad diversity of national experiences in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, recognizes the initiatives taken and progress made by countries, including developing countries, in advancing legal empowerment of the poor as an integral part of their development strategies and objectives, and stresses the importance of promoting the sharing of national best practices;

"4. *Welcomes* in this regard the ongoing work of the United Nations funds and programmes as well as of the specialized agencies;

"5. *Emphasizes* the importance of access to justice by the poor and in this regard encourages the strengthening and improvement of the administration of justice and identity and birth registration systems, as well as awareness-raising concerning existing legal rights;

"6. *Recognizes* that respect for the rule of law and property rights, and pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks, encourage business formation, including entrepreneurship, empowerment and poverty eradication;

"7. *Reiterates* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at respective national levels to promote employment and decent work for all and to protect labour rights, including through respect for the fundamental principles and rights at work proclaimed by the International Labour Organization as a foundation for building the legal codes and collective agreements needed to effectively govern labour markets and workplaces;

"8. *Recognizes* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at respective national levels to promote a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector as a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty, and encourages the promotion of an enabling environment that facilitates entrepreneurship and doing business by all, including women, the poor and the vulnerable;

"9. *Encourages* countries to promote the four pillars of legal empowerment of the poor, namely, access to justice and the realization of rights related to property, labour and business by incorporating these dimensions into their national development policies and strategies and making them an integral part of their eradication of poverty efforts;

"10. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty, and upon countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in promoting legal empowerment of the poor through adequate, predictable financial resources or technical assistance, on either a bilateral or multilateral basis, and

in this regard, recognizes the important contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote stronger coherence and coordination of the United Nations system in integrating the dimensions of access to justice, property, labour and entrepreneurship into policies and strategies to eradicate poverty;

"12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the background documentation for the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to be held in September 2010, to duly take into account the present resolution;

"13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of this resolution, under the item entitled 'Eradication of poverty and other development issues', taking into account national experiences and the views of Member States in this regard."

9. At its 41st meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty" (A/C.2/64/L.4/Rev.2), submitted by Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay.

10. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of Cuba, the Committee agreed to the proposal of the Chairperson to waive the relevant provision of rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.4/Rev.2.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was advised that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

12. Also at the 41st meeting, the representative of Guatemala announced that Cyprus, Djibouti, Eritrea, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Seychelles and Slovakia had joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

13. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, the Czech Republic, Lesotho, Malta, the Republic of Moldova, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.4/Rev.2 (see para. 16).

15. Before the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Nicaragua, Cuba, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); after the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Chile, Colombia, Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Iran (Islamic Republic of) (see A/C.2/64/SR.41).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

16. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling also its resolution 63/142 of 11 December 2008,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[4] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development[5] and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[6]

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reiterating that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Remaining committed to the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Concerned by the global nature of poverty and inequality and reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in the least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work,

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing the economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Recognizing that empowerment of the poor is essential for the effective eradication of poverty and hunger,

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[6] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Recognizing also, in this regard, that access to justice and the realization of rights related, inter alia, to property, labour and business are mutually reinforcing and essential determinants of the effective eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, entitled *Making the Law Work for Everyone*, as a useful reference in the area of eradication of poverty,[7]

Reaffirming that the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger,

Stressing that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to achieving equitable and effective development and to fostering a vibrant economy, and reaffirming its commitment to eliminating gender-based discrimination in all its forms, including in the labour and financial markets, as well as, inter alia, in respect of the ownership of assets and property rights, to promoting women's rights, including their economic empowerment, and effectively mainstreaming gender in law reforms, business support services and economic programmes, and to giving women full and equal access to economic resources,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Deeply concerned by the significant challenges that the financial and economic crisis poses for the eradication of poverty, and in this regard reiterating that national efforts should be complemented by an enabling international environment, to ensure the achievement of a more inclusive, equitable, balanced, development-oriented and sustainable economic development that would help to overcome poverty and inequality,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Also takes note* of the broad diversity of national experiences in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, recognizes the initiatives undertaken and progress made by some countries in advancing legal empowerment of the poor as an integral part of their national strategies and objectives, and stresses the importance of promoting the sharing of national best practices;

3. *Welcomes* in this regard the ongoing work of the United Nations funds and programmes as well as of the specialized agencies;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

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[7] Available from www.undp.org/LegalEmpowerment/reports/concept2action.html.

[8] A/64/133.

5. *Also emphasizes* the importance of access to justice for all, and in this regard encourages the strengthening and improvement of the administration of justice and identity and birth registration systems, as well as awareness-raising concerning existing legal rights;

6. *Recognizes* that respect for the rule of law and property rights, and the pursuit of appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks, inter alia, encourage business formation, including entrepreneurship, and contribute to poverty eradication;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels to promote employment and decent work for all and to protect labour rights, including through respect for the fundamental principles and rights at work proclaimed by the International Labour Organization;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels to promote a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector as a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty, and encourages the promotion of an enabling environment that facilitates entrepreneurship and doing business by all, including women, the poor and the vulnerable;

9. *Encourages* countries to continue their efforts in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, including access to justice and the realization of rights related to property, labour and business, addressing both formal and informal settings by taking into account those dimensions in their national policies and strategies, while bearing in mind the importance of national circumstances, ownership and leadership;

10. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, and in this regard calls for action at all levels to give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and calls upon countries in a position to do so to support the national efforts of developing countries in promoting legal empowerment of the poor through the provision of adequate, predictable financial resources or technical assistance;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit" and to continue the consideration of legal empowerment of the poor, taking into account national experiences and the views of Member States.

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 57 (a)

Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 57 (see A/64/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 35th and 40th meetings, on 17 November and 4 December 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.35 and 40).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.38 and A/C.2/64/L.56

2. At the 35th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)" (A/C.2/64/L.38), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006, 62/205 of 19 December 2007 and 63/230 of 19 December 2008,

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"*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

"*Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Recalling* its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

"*Welcoming* the poverty-related discussions in the annual ministerial reviews held by the Economic and Social Council, which play an important supporting role in the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017),

"*Noting with appreciation* the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council, on 'Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development',

"*Recalling* its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/5 of 24 July 2009 on recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact,

"*Recalling further* the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,

"*Recalling* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

"*Remaining concerned* that volatile food prices and the global multidimensional crises pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger, as well as to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015 as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

"*Expressing concern* that, after the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) and six years away from the target date of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase,

with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

"*Recognizing* that rates of economic growth vary between countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

"*Concerned* at the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

"*Reaffirming* that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment-generation and decent work,

"*Expressing deep concern* at the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Expressing deep concern also* at the impact of the current financial and economic crisis on the ability of developing countries to gain access to the financing necessary for the development objectives, and underlining the fact that developing countries and countries with economies in transition risk suffering very serious setbacks to their development objectives, in particular the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Expressing further concern* that the effects of the world economic and financial crisis are extremely disturbing and likely to worsen, and that hundreds of millions of people all over the world are losing their jobs, their income, their savings, their homes and their ability to survive, and that, in addition, more than 50 million more people have already been driven into extreme poverty,

"*Recognizing* that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Recognizing also* the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

"*Acknowledging* that good governance at national and international levels and sustained and inclusive economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work, rising productivity, and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the

Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

"*Affirming* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

"*Underlining* the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"1. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, related to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

"2. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

"3. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

"4. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, critical for the eradication of poverty;

"5. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

"6. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, in order to deliver social justice combined with economic efficiency, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and further reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social impact and dimension of globalization;

"7. *Recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

"8. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

"9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and on donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard, through adequate predictable financial resources on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

"10. *Calls for* the fulfilment of all official development assistance-related commitments, including the commitments made by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach the target of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2010, as well as to achieve the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries; and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

"11. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, under the auspices of two Education for All processes, e.g., the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012) and the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), to promote education as a major tool of decision-making on major international policy issues with regard to sustainable development;

"12. *Recognizes* that sustained and inclusive economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

"13. *Calls upon* Member States to take ambitious actions in the interest of all nations in order to achieve a more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socio-economic model to overcome poverty and inequality;

"14. *Takes note* of the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as the coordinator

for the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017);

"15. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to carry out coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities to ensure the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty in consultations with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

"16. *Takes note* of the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further details of this plan of action for consideration by Member States;

"17. *Reaffirms* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the item on poverty eradication in its agenda, and in that regard, as a contribution to the Second United Nations Decade, decides to convene, during its sixty-eighth session, a meeting of the General Assembly at the highest appropriate political level centred on the review process devoted to the theme for the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012-2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

"18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled 'Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)', and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report that details the current response, plans and actions of the United Nations system related to the theme of the Second Decade."

3. At its 40th meeting, on 4 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)" (A/C.2/64/L.56), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Dragan Mićić (Serbia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.38.

4. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the Chairperson, the Committee agreed to waive rule 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and proceeded to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.56.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.56 (see para. 9).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Bangladesh (see A/C.2/64/SR.40).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.56, draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.38 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006, 62/205 of 19 December 2007 and 63/230 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[1] as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the poverty-related discussions in the annual ministerial reviews held by the Economic and Social Council, which play an important supporting role in the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017),

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development,[3] and also Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/5 of 24 July 2009 on recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact,

Recalling its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[4]

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[5] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[6]

Underlining the fact that, in the face of the current multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices and climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the public sector, the private sector and civil society, are needed more than ever, and recognizing in this context the urgent need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that, after the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) and six years from the 2015 target date of the Millennium Development Goals, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that rates of economic growth vary among countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

Concerned at the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment-generation and decent work,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

Acknowledging that good governance at the national and international levels and sustained and inclusive economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and

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[4] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[5] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[6] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, related to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

2. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

4. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

5. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and also reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social and environmental impact and dimensions of globalization, and that these concepts are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

7. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the

effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard, through adequate predictable financial resources on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments made by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, and to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for development assistance by 2010, as well as a target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries;

10. *Welcomes* the increased efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and to increase its impact on development, including through the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action,[7] which make important contributions to the efforts of those countries which have committed to them, and through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and management of results and through the further alignment of assistance with countries' strategies, the building of institutional capacities, the reduction of transaction costs, the elimination of bureaucratic procedures, the achievement of progress on untying aid, the enhancement of the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and the strengthening of the focus on development results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

11. *Recognizes* that sustained and inclusive economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socio-economic approaches to overcoming poverty and inequality;

13. *Takes note* of the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as the coordinator for the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017);

14. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to consider activities to implement the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

15. *Takes note* of the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving more than twenty-one agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further details of this plan of action to the Member States;

16. *Reaffirms* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the item on poverty eradication in its agenda, and in that regard recalls its decision, in

[7] A/63/539, annex.

resolution 63/230, as a contribution to the Second United Nations Decade, to convene, during its sixty-eighth session, a meeting of the General Assembly at the highest appropriate political level centred on the review process devoted to the theme for the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012-2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report that details the current response of the United Nations system related to the theme of the Second Decade.

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Eradication of poverty and other development issues: women in development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 57 (see A/64/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 37th and 41st meetings, on 25 November and 9 December 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.37 and 41).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.44 and A/C.2/64/L.58

2. At the 37th meeting, on 25 November, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/64/L.44), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
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> "*Recalling* its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005, 62/206 of 19 December 2007 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbol A/64/424 and Add.1-3.

Please recycle

"*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century', and recalling the outcomes of all other relevant major United Nations conferences and summits,

"*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, in combating diseases and in stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

"*Recalling also* the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,

"*Recalling further* the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

"*Reaffirming* the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming also that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Stressing* the importance of creating a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life for the effective integration of women in development,

"*Taking note with appreciation* of the discussion on women in development in the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and recalling its agreed conclusions on 'Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work',

"*Recognizing* that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of the full enjoyment of human rights by women severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunity for education and economic and political empowerment,

"*Reaffirming* that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity,

efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

"*Reaffirming also* the significant contribution that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

"*Recognizing* that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have contributed to the feminization of poverty,

"*Expressing deep concern* over the disproportionate negative impact on women of the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change,

"*Noting* that gender biases in labour markets and women's lack of control over their own labour and earned income are also major factors in women's vulnerability to poverty, and, together with women's disproportionate responsibilities for domestic work, result in a lack of economic autonomy and influence in economic decision-making within households,

"*Recognizing* that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology, and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

"*Recalling* its resolution 63/311 of 14 September 2009, in which it strongly supported strengthening the institutional arrangements in support of gender equality and empowerment through the consolidation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women into a composite entity, taking into account the existing mandates as well as the request therein that the Secretary-General present a comprehensive proposal on this issue in order to commence intergovernmental negotiations,

"*Recognizing*, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

"*Reaffirming* the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technologies and other new technologies and the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of

women and poverty eradication and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

"*Recognizing* that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

"*Aware* that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made some women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility, including in the agricultural sector, and that special support, particularly for women who are small-scale farmers, and empowerment are necessary to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

"*Recognizing* that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

"*Expressing its concern* that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the denial and lack of equal rights and lack of access of women to education, training, information, support services and credit facilities, salaries, and control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production,

"*Also expressing its concern* about the underrepresentation of women in political and economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies and programmes,

"*Noting* the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

"1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

"3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

"4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic and social development to ensure that all people, including those in poor and vulnerable groups, benefit from economic growth and development, in accordance with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus;

"5. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations to design stimulus packages in response to the financial crisis that provide gender-sensitive investments in both physical and social infrastructure and in employment and that take into account both paid and unpaid work and the situation of particularly vulnerable groups, such as migrant women;

"6. *Stresses* the importance of the adoption by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of appropriate measures to identify and address the negative impacts of the economic and financial crisis on women and girls and of maintaining adequate levels of funding for gender equality and the empowerment of women;

"7. *Stresses* the importance of creating a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life for the effective integration of women in development and of undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

"8. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming, the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and to strengthen mechanisms to effectively measure the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

"9. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further their efforts to increase the number of women in economic decision-making bodies, including at the highest levels in the relevant government ministries, international organizations, corporate boards and the banking sector, as well as to improve the collection, compilation and use of data on women's participation in economic decision-making bodies;

"10. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national development strategies, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

"11. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including

poverty eradication strategies, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

"12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase women's representation and participation in government decision-making at all levels in development policy areas to ensure that the priorities, needs and contributions of women are taken into consideration by, inter alia, providing access to training, developing measures to reconcile family and professional responsibilities and eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions;

"13. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace, also recognizes the implications of violence against women and girls for the social and economic development of communities and States, and calls upon States to elaborate and implement plans of action to eliminate violence against women and girls;

"14. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support developing countries' efforts in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

"15. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

"16. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypical attitudes to gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

"17. *Urges* Governments to develop and adequately resource active labour market policies on full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas;

"18. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

"19. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and conventions of the International Labour Organization;

"20. *Urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

"21. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

"22. *Urges* Governments to take all appropriate measures to identify and address discrimination against women in the access to and the control of bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor women, and to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on developing savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women in their efforts and support women to retain control over their savings;

"23. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their equal access to all levels of education;

"24. *Urges* Member States to encourage women entrepreneurs, including through education and training of women in business, administration and information and communications technologies, and invites business associations to assist national efforts in this regard;

"25. *Encourages* Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by giving them greater access to financial instruments, providing training and advisory services, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation in advisory boards and other forums to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed by financial institutions;

"26. *Encourages* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation and family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments, the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers and the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

"27. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through increased flexibility in working arrangements such as part-time work, and to ensure that both women and men have access to maternity, paternity, parental and other forms of leave and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

"28. *Urges* Member States to adopt and review legislation and policies to ensure women's equal access to and control over land, housing and other

property, including through inheritance, land reform programmes and land markets, and to give due attention to enforcement;

"29. *Recognizes* the need to empower women economically and politically, particularly poor women, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation to rural areas and urban slums to increase health and well-being, relieve the workloads of women and girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

"30. *Recognizes* the role of agriculture in development, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in food security is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to the food crisis;

"31. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate equitable access to land and property rights by providing training to make the judicial and administrative system more responsive to gender equality issues, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks, and to carry out awareness campaigns to draw attention to equal rights for women to land and property;

"32. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the fact that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by the HIV/AIDS crisis, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigma and discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010;

"33. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development, integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

"34. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that, in order to build support for official development assistance, cooperation will be needed in further improving policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness;

"35. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for

Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

"36. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

"37. *Stresses* the importance of collecting and exchanging all relevant information needed on the role of women in development, including data on international migration, as well as the need to develop statistics disaggregated by age and sex, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

"38. *Recognizes* the knowledge, practices and traditional lifestyles of indigenous peoples, particularly women, and local communities that contribute to sustainable development;

"39. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with national development strategies;

"40. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;

"41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

"42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, noting that the survey should continue to focus on selective emerging development themes that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

"43. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled 'Women in development'."

3. At its 41st meeting, on 9 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/64/L.58), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Dragan Mićić (Serbia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.44.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at its 41st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.58 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.44 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005 and 62/206 of 19 December 2007 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,[1]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[5] the 2005 World Summit[6] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective in and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, combating diseases and stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Recalling the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[8] the Doha

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Declaration on Financing for Development[9] and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[10]

Taking note with appreciation of the discussion on women in development in the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and recalling its agreed conclusions on "Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work",[11]

Recognizing that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of the full enjoyment of human rights by women severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunity for education and economic and political empowerment,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained and inclusive economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming also the significant contribution that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have contributed to the feminization of poverty,

Expressing deep concern over the disproportionate negative impact on women of the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change,

Noting that gender biases in labour markets and women's lack of control over their own labour and earned income are also major factors in women's vulnerability to poverty and, together with women's disproportionate responsibilities for domestic work, result in a lack of economic autonomy and influence in economic decision-making within households and in society at all levels,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and decent employment opportunities are

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[9] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[10] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[11] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 7* and corrigenda (E/2006/27 and Corr.1 and 2), chap I, sect. D.

important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Welcoming its resolution 63/311 of 14 September 2009, in particular the provisions on strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women, reaffirming its strong support expressed therein for the consolidation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women into a composite entity, taking into account the existing mandates, to be led by an Under-Secretary-General, and looking forward to the full implementation of resolution 63/311,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Reaffirming the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technology and other new technologies, and fulfilment of the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels, are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made some women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility, including in the agricultural sector, and that special support, particularly for women who are small-scale farmers, and empowerment are necessary to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities arising from agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of their societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Expressing its concern that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the denial and lack of equal rights and their lack of access to legal aid, education, training, information, support services and credit facilities including salaries, and control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production,

Expressing its concern also regarding the underrepresentation of women in political and economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and

evaluation of all policies and programmes, including in conflict prevention and fragile situations and in post-conflict peacebuilding,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[12]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[4]

3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication and the achievement of all of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic and social development to ensure that all people, including those in poor and vulnerable groups, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in accordance with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[7]

5. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further efforts to increase the number of women in decision-making and to build their capacity as agents of change, and to empower women to participate actively and effectively in the development, implementation and evaluation of national development and/or poverty eradication policies, strategies and programmes, including, where appropriate, programme-based approaches;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the adoption by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of appropriate measures to identify and address the negative impacts of the economic and financial crisis on women and girls and of maintaining adequate levels of funding for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of the creation by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women in development, and of their undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

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[12] A/64/93 and A/64/162 and Corr.1.

8. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming, the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and to also strengthen the mechanisms needed to effectively measure the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

9. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further their efforts to increase the number of women in economic decision-making bodies, including at the highest levels in the relevant government ministries, international organizations, corporate boards and the banking sector, as well as to improve the collection, compilation, dissemination and use of data on women's participation in economic decision-making bodies;

10. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national development strategies, and to encourage the involvement of men and boys in the promotion of gender equality, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national environmental policies, and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure women's full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, in particular on strategies related to the impact of climate change on the lives of women and girls;

12. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase women's representation and participation in government decision-making at all levels in development policy areas in order to ensure that the priorities, needs and contributions of women are taken into consideration by, inter alia, providing access to training, developing measures to reconcile family and professional responsibilities and eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls, reiterates the need to further intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and recognizes that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace and that women's poverty and lack of political, social and economic empowerment, as well as their marginalization, may result from their exclusion from social policies for and benefits of sustainable development and can place them at increased risk of violence;

15. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

16. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

17. *Urges* Governments to develop and adequately resource active labour-market policies on full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas;

18. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, conditions and wages, access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

19. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

20. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building in this regard on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[13] and Conventions of the International Labour Organization;

21. *Also urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to financial services, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

22. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

23. *Urges* Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on developing savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women in their efforts and support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

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[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

24. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of education and ensure their equal access to all levels of education;

25. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

26. *Urges* Member States to encourage women entrepreneurs, including through education, vocational training and training of women in business, administration and information and communications technology, and invites business associations to assist national efforts in this regard;

27. *Encourages* Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by giving them greater access to financial instruments, providing training and advisory services, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation in advisory boards and other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed by financial institutions;

28. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation and family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments, the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers and the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

29. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through increased flexibility in working arrangements such as part-time work, and to ensure that both women and men have access to maternity, paternity, parental and other forms of leave and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

30. *Urges* Member States to adopt and review legislation and policies to ensure women's equal access to and control over land, housing and other property, including through inheritance, land reform programmes and land markets, and to take measures to implement these laws and policies;

31. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate equitable access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system more responsive to gender equality issues, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

32. *Recognizes* the need to empower women economically and politically, particularly poor women, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation to rural areas and urban slums to increase health and well-being, relieve the workloads of women and girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

33. *Also recognizes* the role of agriculture in development, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in food security is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to the food crisis;

34. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the fact that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by HIV/AIDS, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization and discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of HIV/AIDS, and calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010 and of having halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015;

35. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development,[14] through integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

36. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets, and that the full implementation of these commitments will substantially boost resources available to push forward the international development agenda;

37. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving child and maternal health, and in this context calls upon States to renew their commitment to preventing and eliminating child and maternal mortality and morbidity;

38. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

39. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

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[14] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

40. *Stresses* the importance of collecting and exchanging all relevant information needed on the role of women in development, including data on international migration, as well as the need to develop statistics disaggregated by age and sex, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

41. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, and their traditional knowledge, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty;

42. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain in accordance with national development strategies;

43. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender-equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

44. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[15]

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

46. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the *2009 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*[16] for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, noting that the Survey should continue to focus on selective emerging development themes that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

47. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[16] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.IV.7.

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Eradication of poverty and other development issues: human resources development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 57 (see A/64/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 35th and 40th meetings, on 17 November and 4 December 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.35 and 40).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.34 and A/C.2/64/L.51

2. At the 35th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Human resources development" (A/C.2/64/L.34), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005 and 62/207 of 19 December 2007,
>
> "*Stressing* that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in four parts, under the symbol A/64/424 and Add.1-3.

Please recycle

"*Stressing also* that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

"*Recognizing* that, despite considerable efforts made over the years, many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources that match national economic and social needs, and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries,

"*Recognizing also* that the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis will further diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

"*Stressing* that human resources development is even more critical in the current global financial and economic crisis in order to help countries mitigate the worst effects of the global financial crisis and set the basis for future and sustainable recovery,

"*Stressing also* that brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, threatening achievements in the area of human resources development,

"*Reaffirming* that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

"*Recognizing* that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education is available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

"*Stressing* that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Stresses* the need for Member States to prioritize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies to eradicate poverty in order to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

"3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link among education, training and

employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

"4. *Also encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen social protection systems and to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets, protect vulnerable groups and boost domestic consumption and production to cushion the effect of the crisis and to prevent people from falling into poverty and, in this regard, expresses concern that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources to implement such countercyclical measures and stresses the need for urgent international support for the same;

"5. *Emphasizes* the need to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

"6. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, in particular through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology;

"7. *Also calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources, in particular in Africa;

"8. *Urges* the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health systems strengthening, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine and, in this regard, stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and should be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

"9. *Underscores* the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and encourages efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

"10. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

"11. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as

science proficiency, and provide tertiary, technical-vocational and adult education;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report that reviews lessons learned from the global financial and economic crisis and provides an assessment of the requirements for human resources development to help countries overcome the negative effects of the crisis and set the basis for recovery and progress towards a more sustainable path of development;

"13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled 'Eradication of poverty and other development issues', the sub-item entitled 'Human resources development'."

3. At its 40th meeting, on 4 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Human resources development" (A/C.2/64/L.51), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Dragan Mićić (Serbia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.34.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.51 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Dragan Mićić (Serbia), made a statement, in the course of which he orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.51 (see A/C.2/64/SR.40).

6. Also at the 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.51, as orally corrected (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.51, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.34 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005 and 62/207 of 19 December 2007,

Stressing that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Stressing also that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries,

Recognizing that the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis will further diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Stressing that human resources development is even more critical in the current global financial and economic crisis in order to mitigate the worst effects of the crisis and set the basis for future and sustainable recovery,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transition and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, and stressing that brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Recognizing that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining

economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education is available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in order to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link among education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

4. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and, in this regard, calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on infrastructure and capacity development, including, inter alia, education, health and science and technology, including information and communications technology;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen social protection systems and to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets, protect vulnerable groups and boost domestic consumption and production especially to cushion the effect of the crisis and prevent people from falling into poverty, and acknowledges, in this regard, that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community to provide financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology, as appropriate and on mutually agreed terms;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources, in particular in Africa;

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[1] A/64/329.

9. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls on Member States to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health systems strengthening, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

10. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and, in this regard, reiterates the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

11. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and, in this regard, emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

12. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

13. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing tertiary, technical-vocational and adult education, and stresses the need to ensure that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report that reviews lessons learned from the global financial and economic crisis on the requirements for human resources development to help countries prevent and overcome the negative effects of crises and progress towards a more sustainable path of development;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

United Nations A/64/425

General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 58

Operational activities for development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled:

"Operational activities for development:

"(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

"(b) South-South cooperation for development"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 10th and 11th meetings, on 14 October 2009. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.10 and 11). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 7th meetings, from 5 to 7 October (see A/C.2/64/SR.2-7). Action was taken on the item at the 35th meeting, on 17 November (see A/C.2/64/SR.35). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/64/425 and Add.1 and 2.

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Item 58
Operational activities for development

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the national execution of technical cooperation projects (A/64/375-E/2009/103 and Corr.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the national execution of technical cooperation projects (A/64/375/Add.1-E/2009/103/Add.1)

Letter dated 6 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/64/65)

Letter dated 30 September 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/64/489)

Item 58 (a)
Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2007 (A/64/75-E/2009/59)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/64/164 and Corr.1)

Item 58 (b)
South-South cooperation for development

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (A/64/321)

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of South-South cooperation for development: a thirty-year perspective (A/64/504)

Letter dated 5 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/64/4)

Letter dated 8 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/64/6)

Letter dated 21 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/64/8)

4. At the 10th meeting, on 14 October, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (a)); the Vice-Chairman of the Joint Inspection Unit (under item 58); the Senior Adviser on Information Management Policy Coordination, United Nations System Chief Executives Board (under item 58); the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (under sub-item (a)); and the Chief of the Division for Policy Dialogue and Advocacy, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, United Nations Development Programme (under sub-item (b)) (see A/C.2/64/SR.10).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.6

5. By its resolution 2009/2, the Economic and Social Council had recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund". The draft resolution was reproduced in a note by the Secretariat (A/C.2/64/L.6).

6. At the 35th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/64/L.6 (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently renamed the United Nations Population Fund, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Recalling also its resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, in which it placed the United Nations Population Fund under its authority as a subsidiary organ, in accordance with Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations, taking into account the separate identity of the Fund,

1. *Notes* that, since the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme ceased to perform the administrative role with respect to the United Nations Population Fund, no formal procedure has been established for the appointment of the Executive Director of the Fund;

2. *Decides* that the secretariat of the United Nations Population Fund shall continue to be headed by an Executive Director at the Under-Secretary-General level;

3. *Also decides* that the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, for a term of four years.

United Nations A/64/425/Add.1

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 58 (a)

Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee considered agenda item 58 (a) jointly with sub-item (b). Action on sub-item (a) was taken by the Committee at its 35th meeting, on 17 November 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record (A/C.2/64/SR.35).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.2 and A/C.2/64/L.35

2. At the 18th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system" (A/C.2/64/L.2), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,
>
> "*Reaffirming* the importance of the comprehensive policy review of United Nations operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

* The report of the Second Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbol A/64/425 and Add.1 and 2.

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"*Recalling* the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/208,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2007, and notes the progress made in broadening and improving the reporting, in line with paragraph 28 of its resolution 62/208;

"2. *Also takes note* of the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

"3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the national execution of technical cooperation projects;

"4. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council decision 2009/214 of 22 July 2009 on operational activities for development and its resolution 2009/1 of 22 July 2009 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208, and expresses appreciation for the guidance provided by the Council on the further implementation of resolution 62/208 as contained therein;

"5. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 63/232 of 19 December 2008, in which it decided to hold its next comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in 2012 and subsequent reviews on a quadrennial basis, and requests the Secretary-General to postpone to its sixty-seventh session the submission, through the Economic and Social Council, of the comprehensive analysis of the implementation of Assembly resolution 62/208 to be prepared in accordance with the guidance contained in paragraph 143 thereof;

"6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled 'Operational activities for development of the United Nations system'."

3. At its 35th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system" (A/C.2/64/L.35), submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Mohamed Chérif Diallo (Guinea), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.2.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.35 (see para. 8).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the Vice-Chairperson (see A/C.2/64/SR.35).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.35, draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.2 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the comprehensive policy review of United Nations operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/208,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2007,[1] and notes the progress made in broadening and improving the reporting, in line with paragraph 28 of its resolution 62/208;

2. *Also takes note* of the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[2]

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the national execution of technical cooperation projects, and of the comments of the Secretary-General and the member organizations of the United Nations system thereon;[3]

4. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council decision 2009/214 of 22 July 2009 on operational activities for development and its resolution 2009/1 of 22 July 2009 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208, and expresses appreciation for the guidance provided by the Council on the further implementation of resolution 62/208 as contained therein;

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[1] A/64/75-E/2009/59.

[2] See A/64/164 and Corr.1.

[3] See A/64/375-E/2009/103 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

5. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 63/232 of 19 December 2008, in which it decided to hold its next comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in 2012 and subsequent reviews on a quadrennial basis, and requests the Secretary-General to postpone to its sixty-seventh session the submission, through the Economic and Social Council, of the comprehensive analysis of the implementation of Assembly resolution 62/208 to be prepared in accordance with the guidance contained in paragraph 143 thereof.[4]

[4] See Economic and Social Council decision 2009/214.

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Agenda item 58 (b)

Operational activities for development: South-South cooperation for development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee considered agenda item 58 (b) jointly with sub-item 58 (a). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at its 36th meeting, on 19 November 2009. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record (A/C.2/64/SR.36).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/64/L.3 and A/C.2/64/L.42

2. At the 18th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "South-South cooperation" (A/C.2/64/L.3), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Reaffirming* its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009 and other resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

* The report of the Second Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbol A/64/425 and Add.1 and 2.

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"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"*Welcoming with appreciation* the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;

"2. *Decides* to postpone the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation to one convenient day in February 2010;

"3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled 'South-South Cooperation for development', and requests the Secretary-General to submit at that session a comprehensive report of the state of South-South cooperation for development."

3. At the 36th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "South-South cooperation" (A/C.2/64/L.42) submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, Mohamed Chérif Diallo (Guinea), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.3.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.42 (see para. 8).

6. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the Vice-Chairperson (Guinea) (see A/C.2/64/SR.36).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.42, draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.3 was withdrawn by its sponsors (see A/C.2/64/SR.36).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009 and other resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Welcoming with appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[3]

2. *Decides* to hold the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on 4 February 2010, preceded by an organizational meeting on 21 January 2010 to elect the President and Bureau of the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee;

3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "South-South Cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit at that session a comprehensive report of the state of South-South cooperation for development.

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] A/64/321.

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Agenda item 59

Towards global partnerships

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Denise **McQuade** (Ireland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Towards global partnerships" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 32nd and 40th meetings, on 5 November and 4 December 2009. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/64/SR.32 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 7th meetings, from 5 to 7 October (see A/C.2/64/SR.2-7).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector (A/64/337).

4. At its 32nd meeting, on 5 November, the Committee heard an introductory statement made by the Principal Officer of the Strategic Planning Unit of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (see A/C.2/64/SR.32).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.14 and Rev.1

5. Also at the 32nd meeting, on 5 November 2009, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the

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former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania, orally corrected and introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards global partnerships" (A/C.2/64/L.14). Subsequently, Benin and Madagascar joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005 and 62/211 of 19 December 2007,

"*Reaffirming* the vital role of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

"*Underlining* the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations, and the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policymaking,

"*Reaffirming* its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to sustainable economic development, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability,

"*Taking note* of the continuing increase in the number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

"*Recalling* the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they have received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome, particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit encouragement to pursue responsible business practices,

"*Underlining* the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, can make concrete contributions to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

"*Underlining also* the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

"*Reiterating* that maintaining a comprehensive and diverse multi-stakeholder follow-up process to the Doha Conference held from 29 November

to 2 December 2008, including with civil society and the private sector, is critical, bearing in mind the core responsibility of all participants in the financing for development process to exercise ownership of it and to implement their respective commitments in an integrated fashion, and welcoming, in this regard, the active participation of civil society and private-sector entities,

"*Recognizing* the need, where appropriate, for enhancing capacity of Member States for their effective participation in partnerships, at all levels, in accordance with national priorities and national legislation, and encourages international support for such efforts in developing countries,

"*Emphasizing* that all relevant partners, including the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and other diseases,

"*Welcoming* the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental, implications of their undertakings and, in general, towards accepting and implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

"*Underlining* that, in the face of the multiple crises posed by the financial and economic crisis, soaring food prices and the threat of climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the private sector and civil society, is needed more than ever, and recognizing in this context the potential that partnerships have in helping to more effectively implement internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

"*Underlining also* the need for a global consensus on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair and equitable economic development and the fact that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of such a consensus,

"*Noting* with interest that the renewed call for values and principles in business in the wake of the financial and economic crisis has resulted in continued strong, and growing, private sector engagement in support of the United Nations goals,

"*Reaffirming* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

"*Welcoming* the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment, which strive to integrate environmental, social and governmental issues into investment decisions,

"*Taking note with appreciation* of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, the United Nations Global Compact, launched by the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technology and Development and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, and welcoming the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development,

"*Recognizing* the vital role the Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector in accordance with its General Assembly mandate,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;

"2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

"3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving these goals;

"4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

"5. *Recalls* that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalls that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in the following areas: the generation of new investments and employment, financing for development, health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

"6. *Recognizes* the role that public-private partnerships can play in efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger as well as in implementing national strategies and action plans on social services delivery and in making progress towards more equitable health outcomes, bearing in mind the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies, and further recognizes the need for effective accountability and transparency in their implementation;

"7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

"8. *Takes note with interest* of the steps taken by the United Nations to place greater emphasis on impact, transparency, accountability and sustainability, requests that the Secretary-General ensure effective implementation of the Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Private Sector, as an important step towards a more coherent system-wide approach to partnerships of the United Nations and the private sector, and encourages the specialized agencies to align their supplementary guidelines on their engagement with the private sector with the revised Guidelines;

"9. *Invites* the United Nations, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage with private sector entities that demonstrate responsible citizenship by supporting the core values of the United Nations and its causes as reflected in the Charter and other relevant conventions and treaties, as well as through commitment to principles of the United Nations Global Compact, by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct, and management, monitoring and reporting systems;

"10. *Calls upon* the United Nations entities to ensure that information on the nature and scope of major cooperative arrangements are available within the concerned United Nations entity and to the public at large, securing transparency of cooperation with the public sector;

"11. *Encourages* the United Nations Global Compact to continue its activities as an innovative public-private partnership to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, including through an increased number of local networks;

"12. *Acknowledges* the positive contribution the United Nations Global Compact can make towards restoring and building confidence and trust in markets, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the 10 principles of the Global Compact;

"13. *Welcomes* the establishment of a private sector forum in conjunction with the annual debate of the General Assembly in order to provide contributions by business and civil society to intergovernmental discussions, beginning with the United Nations Private Sector Forum established in September 2008, focusing on food sustainability in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and followed by the United Nations Leadership Forum on Climate Change in September 2009;

"14. *Encourages* the cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations Global Compact in order to support the promotion of public-private partnership projects and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, as outlined in the relevant decisions of the African Union;

"15. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces and commissions, within their respective mandates, and in this regard encourages the provision of adequate training, as appropriate;

"16. *Encourages* the United Nations organizations and agencies, when engaging in public-private partnerships, to underscore the importance of social and environmental responsibility and market sustainability for the restoration of market confidence and sustainable growth, and encourages the private sector to better integrate into its sustainable corporate strategies social, environmental and governance criteria;

"17. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships, including with the business community, as a contribution to the development of more effective United Nations partnerships;

"18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Secretary-General's efforts to enhance partnership management through the promotion of adequate training at all concerned levels, institutional capacity in country offices, strategic focus and local ownership, the sharing of best practices, the improvement of partner selection processes, calls upon United Nations entities that engage the private sector as partners in their work to allocate adequate resources and develop the policy frameworks and institutional capacities needed for engagement in a mutually beneficial way, and encourages the further development of United Nations private sector focal points for the purposes of learning and sharing best practices and information;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to promote, within existing resources, impact-assessment mechanisms of partnerships, taking into account best tools available, in order to enable effective management, ensure accountability and facilitate effective learning from both successes and failures;

"20. *Welcomes* innovative approaches to use partnerships as a means to better implement goals and programmes, in particular in support of the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty, and encourages relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to further explore such possibilities, bearing in mind their different mandates, modes of operation and objectives, as well as the particular roles of the non-public partners involved;

"21. *Recommends*, in this context, that partnerships should also foster the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including on gender grounds, in respect of employment and occupation;

"22. *Reiterates its call upon*:

"(a) All bodies within the United Nations system that engage in partnerships to ensure the integrity and independence of the Organization and to include information on partnerships in their regular reporting, as appropriate, on their websites and through other means;

"(b) Partners to provide to and exchange relevant information with Governments, other stakeholders and the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies and other international organizations with which they engage, in an appropriate way, including through reports, with particular attention to the importance of sharing among partnerships information on their practical experience;

"23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At its 40th meeting, on 4 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Towards global partnerships" (A/C.2/64/L.14/Rev.1), submitted by Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was advised that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, orally corrected the revised draft resolution and announced that Australia, Belarus, Cape Verde, Israel, Mozambique, Panama, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Singapore, Switzerland and Uruguay had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Subsequently, Eritrea and Mali also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. Also at its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.14/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 10).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005 and 62/211 of 19 December 2007,

Reaffirming the vital role of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

Underlining the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations, and the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policymaking,

Reaffirming its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to sustainable economic development, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability,

Taking note of the continuing increase in the number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they have received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit encouragement to pursue responsible business practices,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, can make concrete contributions to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

Underlining also the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Reiterating that maintaining a comprehensive and diverse multi-stakeholder follow-up process to the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development, including with civil society and the private sector, is critical, bearing in mind the core responsibility of all participants in the financing for development process to exercise ownership of it and to implement their respective commitments in an integrated fashion, and welcoming, in this regard, the active participation of civil society and private-sector entities,

Recognizing the need, where appropriate, for enhancing capacity of Member States for their effective participation in partnerships, at all levels, in accordance with national priorities and national legislation, and encouraging international support for such efforts in developing countries,

Emphasizing that all relevant partners, including the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and other diseases,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings and, in general, towards accepting and implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Underlining the fact that, in the face of the current multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, and climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the public sector, the private sector and civil society, are needed more than ever, and recognizing, in this context, the potential that partnerships have in contributing to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the principles of sustainable development, and underlining the need for a global consensus on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair and equitable economic development and that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of such a consensus,

Noting that the financial and economic crisis has demonstrated the need for values and principles in business, including for sustainable business practices, which in turn has led to broader private sector engagement in support of United Nations goals,

Recognizing the importance of promoting a gender perspective in global partnerships,

Taking note of the Principles for Responsible Investment initiative, created to help investors integrate environmental, social and corporate governance issues into investment decisions, and the Principles for Responsible Management Education initiative, which seeks to embed corporate responsibility principles in business school curricula and research,

Welcoming the continuous efforts by the Commission on Sustainable Development through its secretariat to promote partnerships for sustainable development, inter alia, through the implementation and expansion of an interactive online database as a platform to provide access to information on partnerships and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices and through the regular holding of partnership fairs at the sessions of the Commission,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, the Global Compact, launched by the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, and welcoming the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development,

Recognizing the vital role the Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector in accordance with its General Assembly mandate,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;[1]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving these goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Emphasizes* the vital role played by Governments in promoting responsible business practices, including providing the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks, where appropriate;

[1] A/64/337.

6. *Recalls* that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalls that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in the following areas: the generation of new investments and employment, financing for development, health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

7. *Recognizes* the role that public-private partnerships can play in efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, and in improving health as well as contributing to the implementation of national strategies and action plans, inter alia, on social services delivery and in making progress towards more equitable health outcomes, bearing in mind the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies, and further recognizes the need for effective accountability and transparency in their implementation;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach, which places greater emphasis on impact, transparency, accountability and sustainability, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, and with due consideration being given to the following partnership principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, sectoral and geographic balance, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to streamline and update the United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and the private sector, including through the approval of the revised Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector;

11. *Invites* the United Nations, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage in a more coherent manner with private sector entities that support the core values of the United Nations as reflected in the Charter and other relevant conventions and treaties, as well as to commit to principles of the United Nations Global Compact by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct, management, monitoring and reporting systems;

12. *Calls upon* United Nations entities to ensure that information on the nature and scope of partnership arrangements with the private sector is available within the United Nations system, as well as to Member States and the public at large, so as to enhance transparency;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Global Compact to continue its activities as an innovative public-private partnership to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, including through an increased number of local networks;

14. *Acknowledges* the positive contribution of the United Nations Global Compact and its ten principles in the promotion of responsible business practices;

15. *Takes note with interest* of the decision of the Secretary-General to hold an annual Private Sector Forum beginning with the United Nations Private Sector Forum in September 2008, focusing on food sustainability and achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and followed by the United Nations Leadership Forum on Climate Change in September 2009;

16. *Welcomes* the collaboration between the African Private Sector Forum and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages the strengthening of this partnership in conjunction with the Commission of the African Union to support the development of the African private sector, the promotion of public-private partnership projects and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in line with the relevant executive decisions of the African Union;

17. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Compact Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean in Bogotá, Colombia, aiming at providing support to the Global Compact Local Networks as well as to the promotion of social and environmental responsibility and public-private partnerships for development in the region;

18. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces and commissions, within their respective mandates, and in this regard encourages the provision of adequate training, as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships, including with the business community, as a contribution to the development of more effective United Nations partnerships;

20. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance partnership management through the promotion of adequate training at all concerned levels, institutional capacity in country offices, strategic focus and local ownership, the sharing of best practices, the improvement of partner selection processes, calls upon United Nations entities that engage the private sector as partners in their work to develop the policy frameworks and institutional capacities needed for engagement in a mutually beneficial way, and encourages the further development of United Nations private sector focal points for the purposes of learning and sharing best practices and information;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to promote, within existing resources, impact-assessment mechanisms of partnerships, taking into account best tools available, in order to enable effective management, ensure accountability and facilitate effective learning from both successes and failures;

22. *Welcomes* innovative approaches to use partnerships as a means to better implement goals and programmes, in particular in support of the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty, encourages relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to further explore such possibilities, bearing in mind their different mandates, modes of operation and objectives, as well as the particular roles of the non-public partners involved;

23. *Recommends*, in this context, that partnerships should also foster the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including on gender grounds, in respect of employment and occupation;

24. *Reiterates its call upon*:

(a) All bodies within the United Nations system that engage in partnerships to ensure the integrity and independence of the Organization and to include information on partnerships in their regular reporting, as appropriate, on their websites and through other means;

(b) Partners to provide to and exchange relevant information with Governments, other stakeholders and the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies and other international organizations with which they engage, in an appropriate way, including through reports, with particular attention to the importance of sharing among partnerships information on their practical experience;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.